

Remarks

Drawings

In the subject action, the drawings were objected to for various informalities. In response, Applicant has amended applicable ones of the drawings to overcome the Examiner's objections, and informal versions of the amended drawings are enclosed. Formal drawings will be submitted shortly following this response.

Specification

In the subject action, the title was objected to. In response, Applicant has amended the title to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The specification was further objected to for various informalities. In response, Applicant has amended the specification accordingly, overcoming the Examiner's objections.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 was objected to for various informalities. The objection has been rendered moot by its cancellation.

Section 112 Rejections

Claims 1-20 were rejected under section 112, first and second paragraphs, due to certain claim language. Independent claims 1, 10 and 19 have been amended to remove the claim language at issue.

Section 102(b) rejections

Claims 1-7, 10-15 and 18-21 were rejected under section 102(b) as being cully anticipated by Aucsmith.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of "serializing the sequence of computer instructions", and "injecting second obscuring instructions into the serialized sequence of computer instructions ..., using the first obscuring instructions. Neither limitations are taught by Aucsmith. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Aucsmith.

Claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1, incorporating its limitations. Accordingly, for at least the same reason, claims 2-7 are patentable over Aucsmith.

Rejections against claims 14-15 and 18 have been rendered moot by their cancellations.

Claims 10-13 are directed towards obscuring and protecting data. Aucsmith's teachings are directed towards protecting instructions. Accordingly, none of the data protecting limitations recited in claims 10-13 are disclosed and taught by Aucsmith. Therefore, claims 10-13 are patentable over Aucsmith.

However, Applicant has taken this opportunity to amend claims 10-13 to more succinctly claim Applicant's invention. The amendments are entered for that purpose, and not for overcoming the prior art.

Claim 19 has also been amended to contain substantially the same limitations as amended claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons, claim 19, is patentable over Aucsmith.

Claim 20 is dependent on claim 19, incorporating its limitations. Accordingly, for at least the same reason, claim 20 is patentable over Aucsmith.

Claim 21 has been amended to clarify the required transformation function bank and the required generator. The former is required to be adapted to transform obscuring instruction identification code, while the latter is required to be adapted to generate obscuring instructions based at least in part on these transformed obscuring instruction identification codes and the stored obscuring instructions. None of these limitations are taught in Aucsmith. Accordingly, claim 21 is patentable over Aucsmith.

103 Rejections

Claims 8-9 and 16-17 were rejected in view of Aucsmith combined with Bellare (US5892899).

Rejection against claim 16 has been rendered moot by its cancellation.

Bellare does not remedy the above described deficiency of Aucsmith. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 11 remain patentable over Aucsmith even when combined with Bellare.

Claims 8-9 and 17 are dependent on claims 1 and 11, incorporating their limitations respectively. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons, claims 8-9 and 17 are also patentable over Aucsmith, even when combined with Bellare.

Claims 22 and 23 were rejected as being obvious in view of Aucsmith. Claim 22 has been amended to clearly direct towards a method that employs a composite executable module formed of nested obscured instruction blocks formed from successive and recursive encryptions, including the operations to recursive recover and execute the recovered critical instructions. Aucsmith does not teach or suggest the employment of such nested obscured instruction blocks formed from successive and recursive encryption architecture, and the resulting operations to execute the composite module so constructed. Accordingly, claim 22 is patentable over Aucsmith.

Claim 23 is dependent on claim 22, incorporating its limitations. Therefore, claim 23 is patentable over Aucsmith.

New Claims

New claims 24-27 are dependent on independent claim 20, incorporating its limitations. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons, claims 24-27 are patentable over Aucsmith.


Conclusion

In conclusion, remaining claim 1-13, 17 and 19-27 are in condition of allowance. Early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees required for this submission to deposit account 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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